

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A vending machine adapted to create an indicia, said vending machine comprising:

means for interacting with a user to establish a credit value on a document, a desired document type and at least one value of said document;

5 means for accepting from a particular printable stock associated with said selected document type data unique to said particular form;

means for comparing said accepted data with data stored in a data base to determine if said unique data had been previously accepted; and

means operable under control of said comparing means for providing a set of coded control data for printing on said printable stock, said control data being decodable, in part, under control of key data associated on said printable stock with said unique data.

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f. The invention set forth in claim 1 further including:

means for dispensing printed ones of said printable stock to said user.

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b. The invention set forth in claim 1 wherein said data base is common to a plurality of physically diverse accepting means.

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A. The invention set forth in claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said unique data is preestablished on said printable stock.

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f. The invention set forth in claim *f.* wherein said preestablished data includes at least one of the following:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

5. The invention set forth in claim 4 wherein said preestablished data includes a security marking selected from the list of:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

8. The invention set forth in claim 7 wherein one of said document types is a sheet of postage indicia wherein the printed data on said stock is in the form of a plurality of postage stamps containing a selected value.

9. The invention set forth in claim 7 wherein said unique data is preestablished on said stock and includes a security marking selected from the list of:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

10. The invention set forth in claim 7 wherein one of said document types is a money order.

11. The invention set forth in claim 7 wherein said unique data is preestablished on said stock and includes a security marking selected from the list of:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

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11. The invention set forth in claim 2 wherein the printed data on said stock is in the form of a money order containing the name of the payee.

12. The invention set forth in claim 2 wherein said document types are selected from the list consisting of:

5 postage stamps, money orders, certified checks, cashier checks, travelers' checks, bank drafts, letters of credit, legal documents, legal certificates, diplomas, passports, birth certificates, visas, drivers licenses, social security cards, medical insurance cards, vacation packages, travel vouchers, car rental vouchers, hotel vouchers, meal vouchers, drink vouchers, food stamps, tickets, baggage tags, prescriptions (Rx), vehicle licenses, vehicle titles.

13. The invention set forth in claim 12 further including:

means for dispensing printed ones of said printable stock to said user.

14. A vending machine adapted to create an indicia, said vending machine comprising:

means for interacting with a user to establish a credit value on a document;

5 means for accepting from a particular printable stock associated with said document data unique to said document;

means for comparing said accepted data with data stored in a data base to determine if said unique data had been previously accepted; and

10 means operable under control of said comparing means for providing a set of coded control data for printing on said printable stock, said control data being decodable, in part, under control of key data associated on said printable stock with said unique data.

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16. The stock of claim 14 further including:

means for dispensing printed ones of said printable stock to said user.

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16. The invention set forth in claim 14 wherein at least a portion of said unique data is preestablished on said printable stock.

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17. The invention set forth in claim *16* wherein said preestablished data includes at least one of the following:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

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18. The invention set forth in claim *16* wherein said preestablished data includes a security marking selected from the list of:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

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19. The invention set forth in claim *15* wherein one of said document types is a sheet of postage indicia wherein the printed data on said stock is in the form of a plurality of postage stamps containing a selected value.

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20. The invention set forth in claim *15* wherein one of said document types is a money order.

21. The invention set forth in claim 20 wherein said unique data is preestablished on said stock and includes a security marking selected from the list of:

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conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

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22. The invention set forth in claim 15 wherein said document types are selected from the list consisting of:

5 postage stamps, money orders, certified checks, cashier checks, travelers' checks, bank drafts, letters of credit, legal documents, legal certificates, diplomas, passports, birth certificates, visas, drivers licenses, social security cards, medical insurance cards, vacation packages, travel vouchers, car rental vouchers, hotel vouchers, meal vouchers, drink vouchers, food stamps, tickets, baggage tags, prescriptions (Rx), vehicle licenses, vehicle titles.

23. The invention set forth in claim 22 further including:

means for dispensing printed ones of said printable stock to said user.

24. A method for establishing the validity of a display created by a non-secure printer, said method comprising the steps of:

5 placing in said printer paper upon which information may be created, said paper containing preestablished data which is unique to said paper; and

communicating at least a portion of said preestablished data to a location independent from said printer, said independent location operable to send to said printer a security indicia, as part of a human readable display, said security indicia created in part by information contained in said preestablished media data and whereby said security indicia is validatable at a subsequent time partially under control of data contained in said preestablished paper data, 10 said unique data being created on said paper using one or more of the following methods:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein said paper is divided into sections, each section adapted for printing thereon information pertaining to a different display, each such display having associated therewith a security indicia.

SWA 197 26. The method of claim 25 wherein each said display is generated from the same preestablished data.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein the human readable portion of each said display is identical to all the other human readable displays on the media.

28. The method of claim 25 wherein the security portion of each said identical display is different.

29. The method of claim 25 wherein the security portion of each said identical display is the same.

30. The method of claim 25 wherein the security portion of each display includes a portion of said preestablished data.

31. The method of claim 30 wherein said security portion has at least one section created from the following list:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

Sub A10 32. The method of claim 25 wherein the sections control the delivery of mail pieces when said security indicia is created thereon.

32 33. The method of claim 24 wherein the media is paper and wherein the security indicia includes the monetary amount available to a holder of the paper.

33 34. The method of claim *33* wherein said security portion has at least one section created from the following list:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

34 35. The method of claim *33* wherein the security indicia includes a human readable portion which contains financial information.

35 36. The method of claim *35* wherein said financial information includes information sufficient to create a money order.

Sub A11 37. A method for establishing the validity of a display created by a non-secure printer, said method comprising the steps of:

placing in said printer paper upon which information may be created, said paper containing preestablished data which is unique to said paper;

5 communicating at least a portion of said preestablished data to a location independent from said printer, said independent location operable to send to said printer a security indicia, as part of a human readable display, said security indicia created in part by information contained in said preestablished media data and whereby said security indicia is validatable at a

subsequent time partially under control of data contained in said preestablished paper data, said unique data being created on said paper which is part of a form defining one or more from the group consisting of:

5 postage stamps, money orders, certified checks, cashier checks, travelers' checks, bank drafts, letters of credit, legal documents, legal certificates, diplomas, passports, birth certificates, visas, drivers licenses, social security cards, medical insurance cards, vacation packages, travel vouchers, car rental vouchers, hotel vouchers, meal vouchers, drink vouchers, food stamps, tickets, baggage tags, prescriptions (Rx), vehicle licenses, vehicle titles.

38. The method of claim 37 wherein said paper is divided into sections, each section adapted for printing thereon information pertaining to a different display, each such display having associated therewith a security indicia.

Sub APT 39. The method of claim 38 wherein said security indicia is created from one or more of the following:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

40. The method of claim 38 wherein each said display is generated from the same preestablished data.

41. The method of claim 38 wherein the human readable portion of each said display is identical to all the other human readable displays on the media.

42. The method of claim 38 wherein the security portion of each said identical display is different.

43. The method of claim 38 wherein the security portion of each said identical display is the same.

44. The method of claim 38 wherein the sections control the delivery of mail pieces when said security indicia is created thereon.

45. The method of claim 37 wherein the security indicia includes the monetary amount available to a holder of the media.

46. The method of claim 45 wherein said security indicia is created from one or more of the following:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

47. The method of claim 45 wherein the security indicia includes a human readable portion which contains financial information.

48. The method of claim 47 wherein said financial information includes information sufficient to create a money order.

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49. A system adapted to create an indicia, said system comprising:

means for interacting with a user to establish a credit value on a document;

means for accepting from a particular printable stock associated with said document data unique to said particular form;

5 means for comparing said accepted data with data stored in a data base to determine if said unique data had been previously accepted; and

means operable under control of said comparing means for providing a set of coded control data for printing on said printable stock, said control data being decodable, in part, under control of key data associated on said printable stock with said unique data wherein said document is a blank sheet adapted to print postage stamps thereon and wherein said control data is associated with postage printed concurrently with said unique data, wherein said document is a blank sheet adapted to print postage stamps thereon and wherein said control data is associated with postage concurrently printed thereon.

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50. The system set forth in claim 49 wherein at least a portion of said unique data is preestablished on said printable stock.

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51. The system set forth in claim 50 wherein said preestablished data includes a security portion.

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52. The system set forth in claim 51 wherein said security portion is at least one of the types selected from the list of:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

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53. The system set forth in claim 49 wherein said preestablished data includes at least one of the following:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

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54. The system set forth in claim 49 wherein said credit value is the identity of the said user.

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55. The system set forth in claim 49 wherein said credit value is a monetary value created on said stock under control of said accepting means.

56. A method of creating on printable stock valuable information the verification of authenticity of which at a subsequent point of use is necessary, said method comprising the steps of:

interacting with a user to establish a user credit value;

5 accepting from a particular printable stock associated data unique to said particular stock;

comparing said accepted data with data stored in a data base to determine if said unique data had been previously accepted;

10 providing, under control of said comparing step, said valuable information as well as a set of coded control data for printing on said particular printable stock, said control data being decodable, in part, under control of key data associated on said particular printable stock with said unique data, such that said valuable information can be verified at said point of use, said valuable information including at least said user credit value, wherein said document is a blank

sheet adapted to print postage stamps thereon and wherein said control data is associated with postage concurrently printed thereon.

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57. The invention set forth in claim 56 wherein at least a portion of said unique
data is embedded within the printable stock.

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58. The invention set forth in claim 57 wherein said preestablished data includes a
security portion.

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59. The invention set forth in claim 58 wherein said security portion is at least one
of the types selected from the list of:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging,
fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

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56. The invention set forth in claim 56 wherein said preestablished data includes at
least one of the following:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging,
fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

61. The method of creating a document having value at a transaction point, said transaction point occurring at a point in time different from the point in time when said document is created, said method comprising the steps of:

on behalf of an anticipated creator of a document on document stock;

5 obtaining from said document stock data preestablished on said stock, said data, having at least a portion that is unique to said document stock;

determining that said obtained data is valid;

obtaining certain information to be incorporated into said document during the subsequent creation of said document; and

creating on said document stock a document containing said certain information and also containing other information some of which is authenticatable only by using at least a portion of said preestablished data from said document stock, said document stock also containing as part of said preestablished data, a security portion selected from the group consisting of:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

62. The method of claim 61 wherein said creating step include the step of printing on said document by a general purpose printer.

63. The method of claim 61 wherein said certain information is obtained from a user.

64. The method of claim 61 wherein said anticipated creator is remote from said document stock.

65. The method of claim 61 wherein said document stock is used to create postage stamps.

66. The method of claim 65 wherein said stock is predivided into sections, each section forming an individual postage stamp when said other information is created.

67. The method of claim 61 wherein said document stock is used to create money orders.

68. The method of claim 67 wherein said-created money orders each contain a payee individual to said money order.

69. The method of claim 67 wherein said created money orders each contain an amount of said money order.

70. The method of claim 61 wherein said document stock is used to create at least one document type from the list consisting of:

5 postage stamps, money orders, certified checks, cashier checks, travelers' checks, bank drafts, letters of credit, legal documents, legal certificates, diplomas, passports, birth certificates, visas, drivers licenses, social security cards, medical insurance cards, vacation packages, travel vouchers, car rental vouchers, hotel vouchers, meal vouchers, drink vouchers, food stamps, tickets, baggage tags, prescriptions (R_x), vehicle licenses, vehicle titles.

71. The method of claim 61 wherein the obtaining steps are interactive between said anticipated creator and a user of said document stock.

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72. Paper stock for use in a general purpose printer, said paper stock having permanently associated therewith at least one set of preestablished data, at least a portion of said data adapted for communication to a printer control source such that said control source is enabled to communicate printer data for establishing printed images on said paper stock, wherein said data includes at least one security tag selected from the group of:

conventional ink, infra-red ink, ultra-violet ink, magnetic ink, isotope tagging, fluorescent ink, holograph marking, silicon chip implant or watermarking.

73. The method of claim 72 wherein said paper stock is divided into sections, each section having at least one security tag thereon.

74. The method of claim 73 wherein on each said section there is printed an image under control of said control source, said image containing at least a portion which is validatable only by using at least a portion of said preestablished data.

75. The method of claim 74 wherein each said image is a stamp validatable for effecting postage delivery.

76. The method of claim 72 wherein on each said section there is printed a ticket under control of said control source, said ticket containing at least a portion which is validatable only by using at least a portion of said preestablished data.

77. The method of claim 72 wherein at least a portion of said data is human readable.

78. A method for the delivery of documents to a third party, said method comprising the steps of:

delivering to an intermediary information to be printed on a document form in the possession of said third party,

5 said intermediary accepting from said third party at least a portion of data preestablished on a blank form to be used for the creation thereon of said document; and

said intermediary communicating information to said third party in a manner allowing a printer to print on said blank form an image of the desired document.

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79. The method of claim 78 wherein a portion of said image includes information keyed to said accepted data.

80. The method of claim 78 further including the step of verifying the authenticity of said printed document based in part upon said preestablished data.

81. The method of claim 78 wherein said document is a check and wherein said printed information includes an amount of said check.

82. The method of claim 78 wherein said document form is selected from the list consisting of

5 postage stamps, money orders, certified checks, cashier checks, travelers' checks, bank drafts, letters of credit, legal documents, legal certificates, diplomas, passports, birth certificates, visas, drivers licenses, social security cards, medical insurance cards, vacation packages, travel vouchers, car rental vouchers, hotel vouchers, meal vouchers, drink vouchers, food stamps, tickets, baggage tags, prescriptions (R_x), vehicle licenses, vehicle titles.